

Remarks

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

Claims 1-4, 7, 10 and 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Obata (US 5,335, 319) in view of Pulli (US 6,078,331).

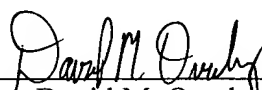
Claims 5, 6, 8, 9, 11 and 12 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. The Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for this indication of allowable subject matter.

In order to expedite prosecution of the application, claims 5, 8 and 11 have been amended so as to include the limitations of their respective base claims and claims 1-4, 7 and 10 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein. Further, claim 13 has been amended so as to depend from claim 11. As a result, only allowable claims remain pending.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that there are issues remaining which must be resolved before allowance of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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